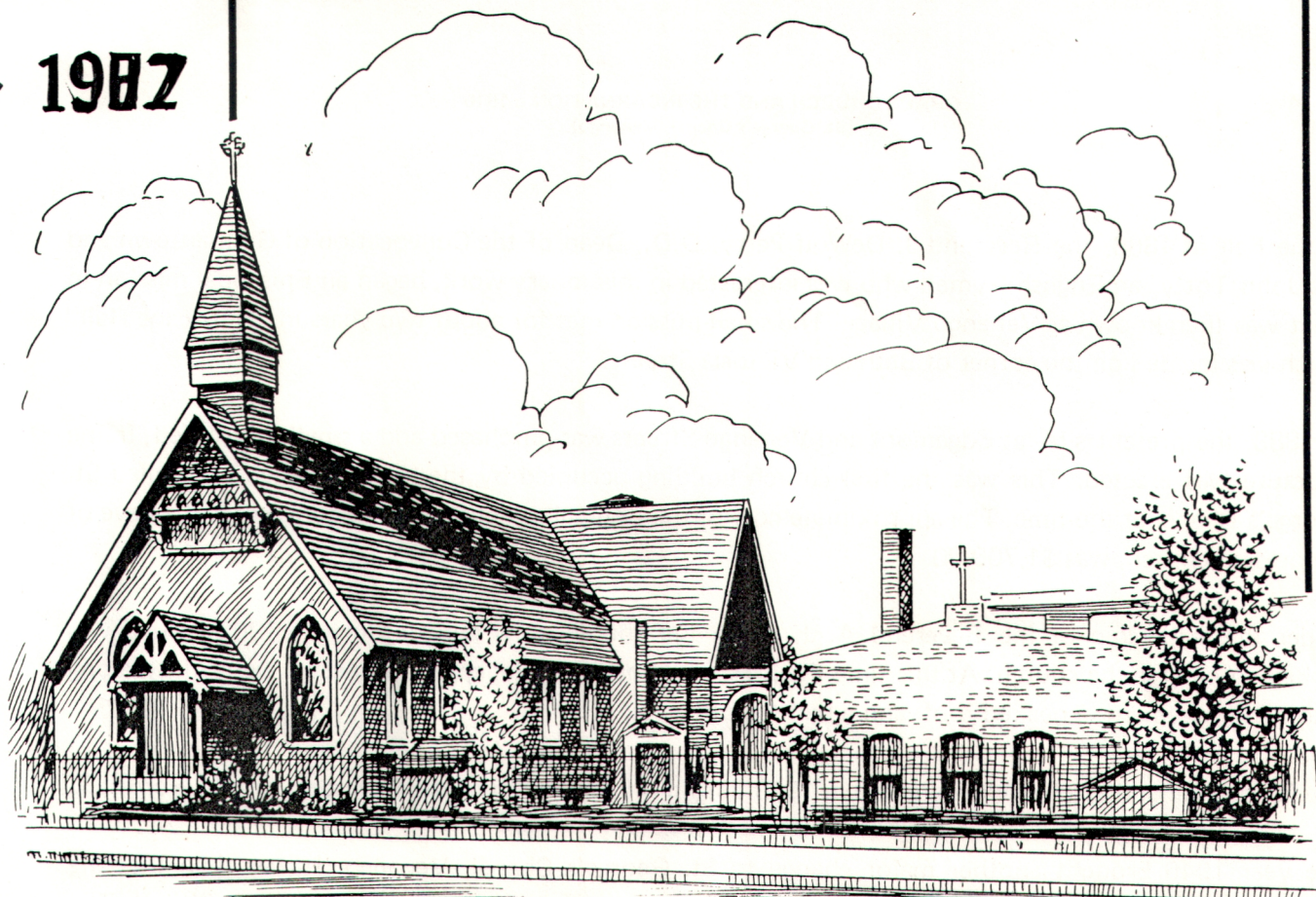


# Grace Church and The Incarnation

Edgemont and Venango Streets • Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19134

1882 ~  
~ 1982



Grace Church and the Incarnation  
Philadelphia ~ Pa.

-E.O. Nielsen-





GRACE CHURCH AND THE INCARNATION c.1910  
(St. George's Chapel, Venango)

In the Fall of 1886, the Reverend J. DeWolf Perry, D.D., Dean of the Convocation of Germantown and Mr. John Totty, an English layman who was interested in missionary work, began an Episcopal mission in what was then known as Venango Village. The small mission met for about two years in "Hurricane Hall" which was located on the corner of Bath and Victoria Streets.

In 1888, the present site, at Edgemont and Venango Streets was purchased and a small flat-roofed, frame structure was erected. This was the first church building occupied by the mission which was called St. George's Chapel at the time. The approximate cost of the original structure, which constitutes the nave of the present church, was \$1,700.00.

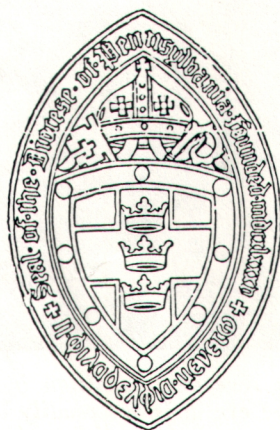
Under the leadership of the Reverend A. J. Arkin the church grew and on July 1, 1902 ground was broken to enlarge the church. At this time the present chancel, sanctuary, and transepts were added along with a full basement, a peaked roof, and a bell steeple.

The Parish Hall and kitchen were erected in 1928 during the rectorship of the Reverend Arnold Hord.

The year 1946 brought another major change to St. George's Chapel, Venango. It was then that the merged parish of Grace Church and The Incarnation negotiated a merger with St. George's Chapel. The combined parishes would occupy the buildings at Edgemont and Venango Streets and would maintain the name of Grace Church and The Incarnation. This was accomplished under the rectorship of the Reverend John K. Schryock, D.D.



The Church Extension Fund  
of  
The Diocese of Pennsylvania



APRIL, 1941, CALL

SPECIAL NOTE: By resolution of the Executive Council of the Diocese all payments received by the Church Extension Fund in 1941 will be credited to Parish Quotas.

The Diocese of Pennsylvania

Church House, 202 South 19th Street  
Philadelphia

THE RIGHT REVEREND  
FRANCIS M. TAITT, S.T.D., LL.D., LITT.D., *Bishop*

April 1, 1941.

Members of the Church Extension Fund:

An opportunity to rescue an established mission work in the Diocese is presented by the urgent need of St. George's Mission, Venango, located at Venango and Edgemont Streets, in Northeastern Philadelphia. The nave of the chapel is close to a state of collapse and must be rebuilt.

This mission has made steady progress since it was planted more than a half century ago. Its people are loyal and devoted to the Church, carrying to the fullest extent of their means, which have been limited greatly by unemployment in recent years, their share of its financial burdens.

The nave is the oldest part of the chapel, having been erected about 1890 on ground given by the late W. W. Frazier, Jr. The transepts and the chancel were added in 1902, and a basement was put under the whole structure.

For some years steel tie-rods and a kind Providence are all that have held the old wooden building together and kept its walls from falling down. The congregation has accumulated a building fund of \$1700. It will require \$5000 or more to erect a brick structure on the existing foundations.

The Bishop, therefore, on the recommendation of the Department of Missions and his Deans, designates St. George's Mission, Venango, as the beneficiary of this, the Church Extension Fund Call for April, 1941, and prays that you will give generously, in thankfulness for God's blessings, to this worthy cause.

Faithfully yours,

FRANCIS M. TAITT	P. R. STOCKMAN
CHARLES E. EDER	GRANVILLE TAYLOR
JOHN E. HILL	N. B. GROTON
STANLEY V. WILCOX	



# New Building Needed to Save St. George's, Venango

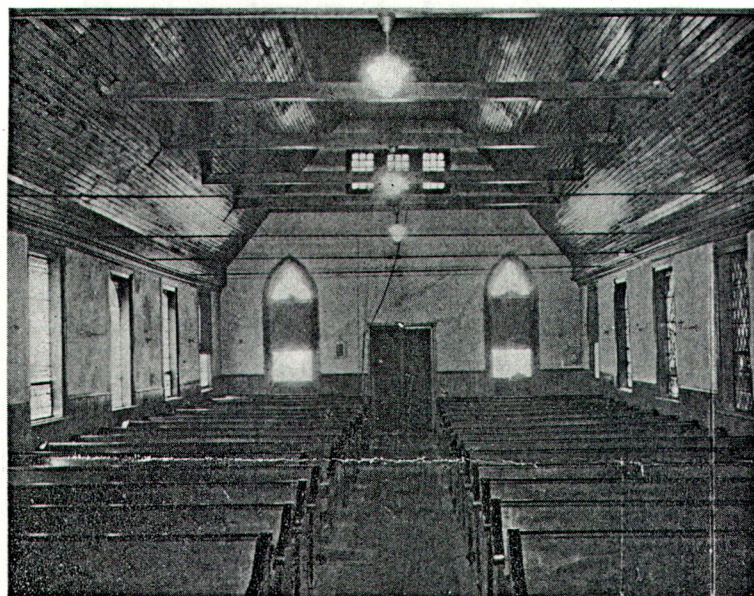
## Abandonment of the 54-Year-Old Mission Is the Alternative

**I**N Britain these days church-goers never know whether or not the buildings in which they worship are coming down upon their heads before they complete their devotions. Bombing planes from across the English Channel make no distinctions between churches and military objectives.

While the congregation of St. George's Mission, Venango, at Venango and Edgemont Streets, have no fear of bombers, they do have certain misgivings about the havoc a severe wind storm might work upon their imperiled house of worship, which for several years has been held together by a few slender iron rods installed to keep the walls from collapsing.

They love their chapel, but for the sake of necessity they know they must replace it with a new and more substantial structure. The old one has sheltered them in their devotions for many years; their babies have been baptized there; within its warped and weakened walls their sons and daughters have taken the vows of holy matrimony; and departed loved ones have been brought there for the final rites of the Church.

Not all of the chapel has to be rebuilt. The nave is the only part that is in a dangerous condition. The



*The camera reveals a condition in the walls of the nave that the eye does not readily detect, such is the ability of paint to hide defects beneath its surface. The steel tie-rods are seen clearly*

transepts and chancel are standing firm. Plans for the work have been submitted by Charles H. Marsh, Jr., registered architect.

The people have not been idle. They already have \$1700 toward the cost of rebuilding. Of that sum, \$100 was contributed by the Woman's Aid to the Convocation of North Philadelphia. It is hoped that at least another \$1700 may be raised through this Church Extension Fund Call. The congregation is determined to continue its efforts, and with the encouragement your aid is sure to bring, it is possible that the \$5000 needed may be in hand before the end of this year.

*History of* In the Fall of 1886, the Rev. J. St. George's DeWolfe Perry, D.D., Dean of the Convocation of Germantown and father of the former Presiding Bishop, together with John Totty, an English layman devoted to missionary work, found in Venango Village conditions that warranted establishing a mission. The only available place for services was "Hurricane Hall," which seems to have been appropriately named, for in addition to

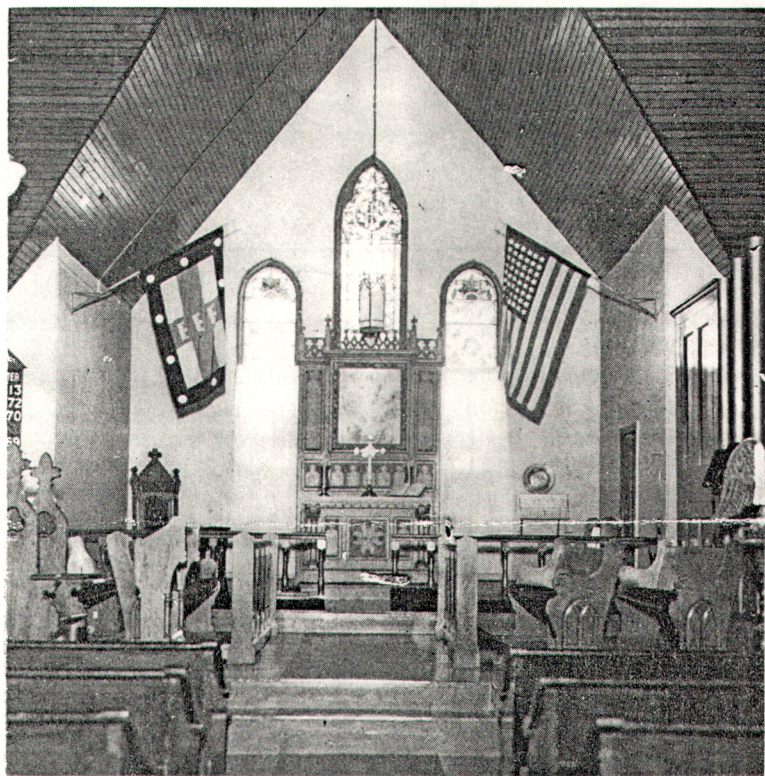


*A general view of St. George's, Venango, showing the old wooden structure and the newer parish house of brick and masonry. The nave is the original chapel, erected prior to 1890*



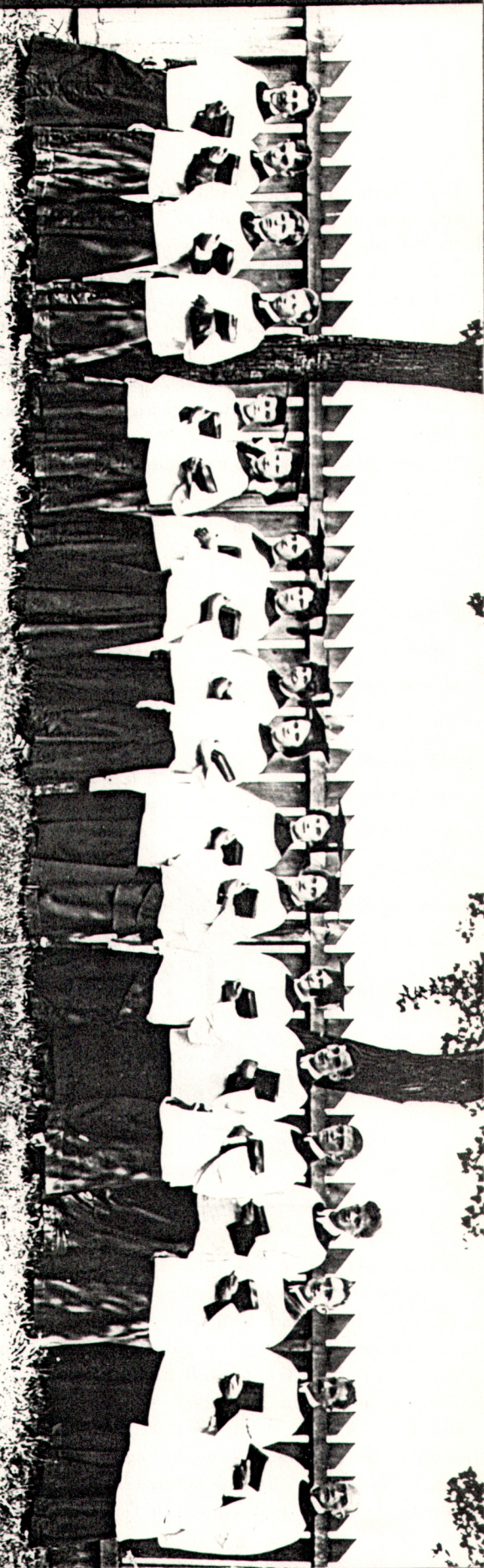
being the locale of public dances, boxing matches and political rallies, most of the windows in its upper room were broken and only part of a door remained. Every wind that blew swept through the hall unhindered.

In that place a Sunday School was begun in 1887, and visiting clergymen soon were holding evening services. In 1888 W. W. Frazier, Jr., gave the ground at Venango and Edgemont Streets—a lot 91 feet wide and 125 feet deep—on which a chapel seating 200 persons later was erected. Mr. Totty became a perpetual deacon, but he was employed all day in an office, and Mrs. Totty did all the visiting among the people. Both worked hard and faithfully without compensation in the face of many discouragements. In fourteen years not a single new dwelling appeared in the neighborhood, and, to make matters worse, when the city transferred the gas works to a private corporation the better class of workmen left the area, for work was harder and the pay less under private management.



*The chancel of St. George's, Venango, is not threatened and will be a part of the rebuilt chapel. The windows of the chancel and transepts came from St. Martin-in-the-Fields, Chestnut Hill*

*St. George's Chapel Choir ~ 1914*

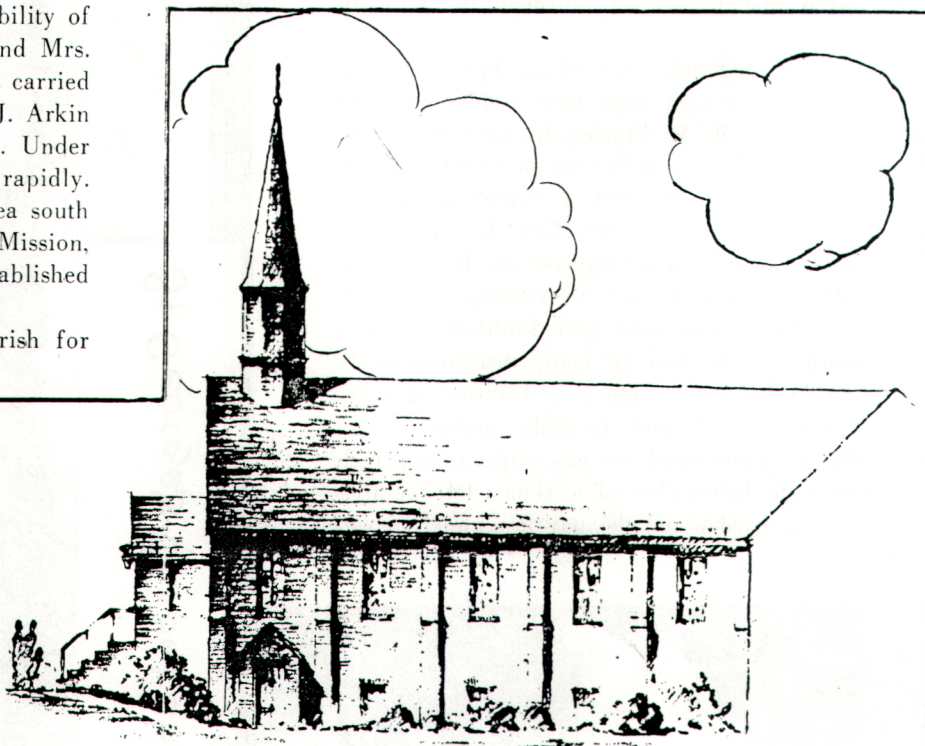
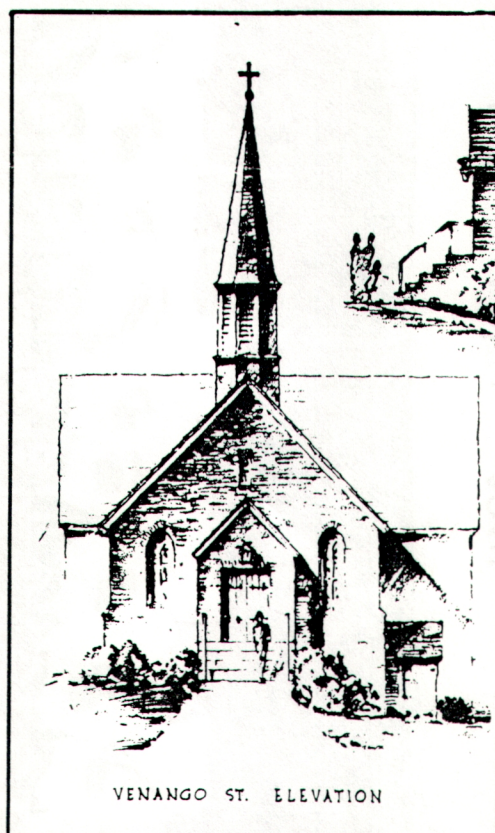




The Convocation even discussed the advisability of abandoning the mission, and in 1900 Mr. and Mrs. Totty returned to England. Divinity students carried on the work until 1901, when the Rev. A. J. Arkin was assigned to it by the late Bishop Whitaker. Under Mr. Arkin's direction the mission developed rapidly. He extended his efforts to a vast growing area south of Allegheny Avenue where St. George's Mission, Richmond, of which he now is vicar, was established in 1906.

St. George's, Venango, continued to flourish for

*Elevation sketches prepared by Charles H. Marsh, Jr., a registered architect, give an idea of the appearance of the proposed structure as it will be when it is erected*



some time. Mr. Arkin was ably assisted by lay readers, and the mission was looked upon as a chapel of St. George's, Richmond, which forged ahead rapidly, due to tremendous population gains in its immediate vicinity and to Mr. Arkin's well planned efforts over a period of more than 20 years.

The Rev. A. H. Hord, formerly rector of St. Michael's, Germantown, brought new life to St. George's, Venango, when he offered his services to Bishop Garland and took charge in December, 1924.

He gave himself devotedly to the work, and the people responded enthusiastically to his sympathetic and wise leadership. The marked progress of the mission during the period of his supervision is a permanent tribute to his devotion and ability.

Six years ago Mr. Hurd resigned because of failing health, and the Bishop, on recommendation of Dean Stockman, appointed the Rev. Leonard J. Sachs to succeed him. When Mr. Sachs left to take charge of Advent, Hathboro, two years later, the Dean appointed as lay missionary E. Edgerton Proffitt, who, with the occasional assistance of priests in the Convocation, has labored faithfully through the intervening years. For a year the Rev. Leonard Hursh, of Emmanuel, Kensington, gave his services each month for the celebration of the Holy Communion at the mission.

The first congregation of St. George's, Venango, was only eleven persons, the sexton's family accounting for six. Today the mission embraces more than 150 families and nearly 250 communicants, and it has more than 125 teachers and pupils in its Church School.





THE REV. HENRY W. KAUFMANN, B.A., M.Div.  
Rector



THE REV. HENRY E. KAUFMANN, B.A., M.Div., D.D.  
Associate Rector

When Convocation boundaries were revised some years ago, the mission came into the jurisdiction of the Dean of North Philadelphia. St. George's, Venango, because of its valiant struggle in the face of many vicissitudes through the years, was recognized by inclusion in the Diocesan Campaign program in 1926.

*St. George's Buildings* As earlier pointed out, the first chapel was erected about 1890. That old wooden structure is the nave of the present building, to which the chancel and transepts were added in 1902. At that time the whole structure was placed on a high masonry foundation to provide a basement that would give the Church School room to grow in and parochial organizations some needed working space.

In 1931, under the vicarship of Mr. Hord, the stone parish house was added as the first unit in a building program endorsed by and incorporated in the Diocesan Campaign. It was recognized that the present wooden chapel was only temporary and would have to be replaced by a more permanent form of construction as soon as possible.

The Convocation of North Philadelphia met in St. George's for the first time in the Fall of 1939. At that time the attention of the Convocation was called to the dangerous condition of the walls of the nave. In spite of repairs, it is evident that the building will have to be either abandoned or replaced before long. There is no other course open.

The Diocesan Campaign plans called for a complete new structure, of which the parish house is but one unit. At this time it would be too expensive for the Diocese and for the congregation to attempt to carry out those plans. The people are content to accept a revision whereby the present nave would be replaced by a permanent structure of brick erected on the existing foundation. This would give them a sense of security and permanency.

So earnest and enthusiastic are the people under Mr. Proffitt's leadership that, it may well be repeated, they already have in hand more than \$1700 toward the new building's cost.

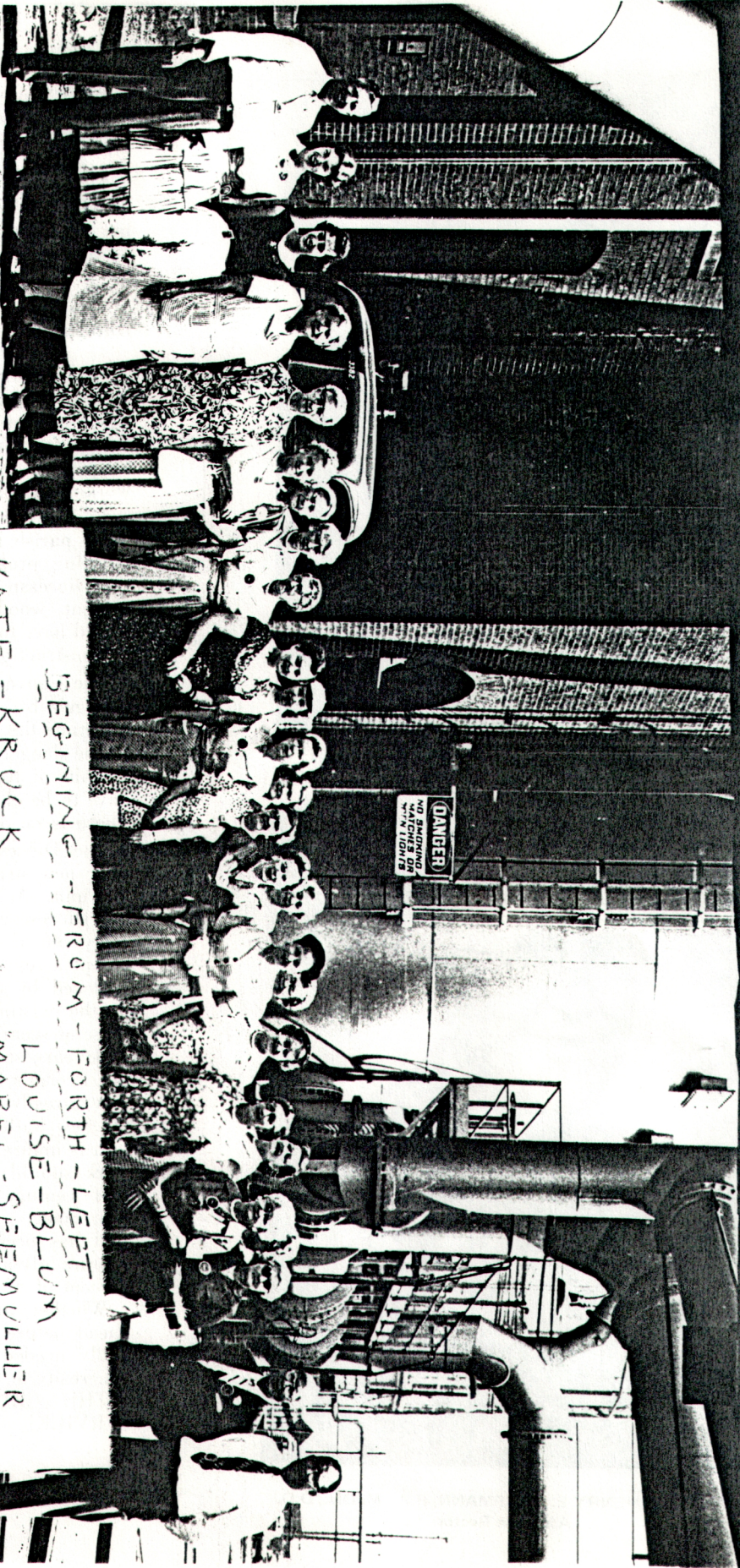
It is unthinkable that this vital part of the Church's work should be abandoned now, after more than a half century in which many obstacles have been overcome.

It has been said that the success or failure of a venture often is determined by no more than two percent of effort or capital, one way or the other.

Whether or not St. George's, Venango, may go ahead before the end of this year with work on a badly needed new building may depend upon your generosity at this time.

THE CHURCH MUST GO FORWARD IN SERVICE!





SEMINING - FROM - FORTH - LEFT

LOUISE-BLUM  
PRES MABEL-SEEMULLER  
IDA-ECKERT

MARY-KERSHAM  
VIOLET-BRAND

EDNA-SEEMULLER  
LYDIA-MARTIN

KATE-HOPKINS  
MARGARET-MCCARTY

MARY-CHESAR  
VIOLET-BRAND  
MRS-BRENNER

KATE-KRUCK  
ELLIE-FRANKLIN  
KATHERINE-HART  
MARGARET-HAGEN  
IRINE-?  
ALMA-MORLOCK  
BELL-WRIGHT

LADIES-AID

GRACE-CHURCH AND THE INCARNATION

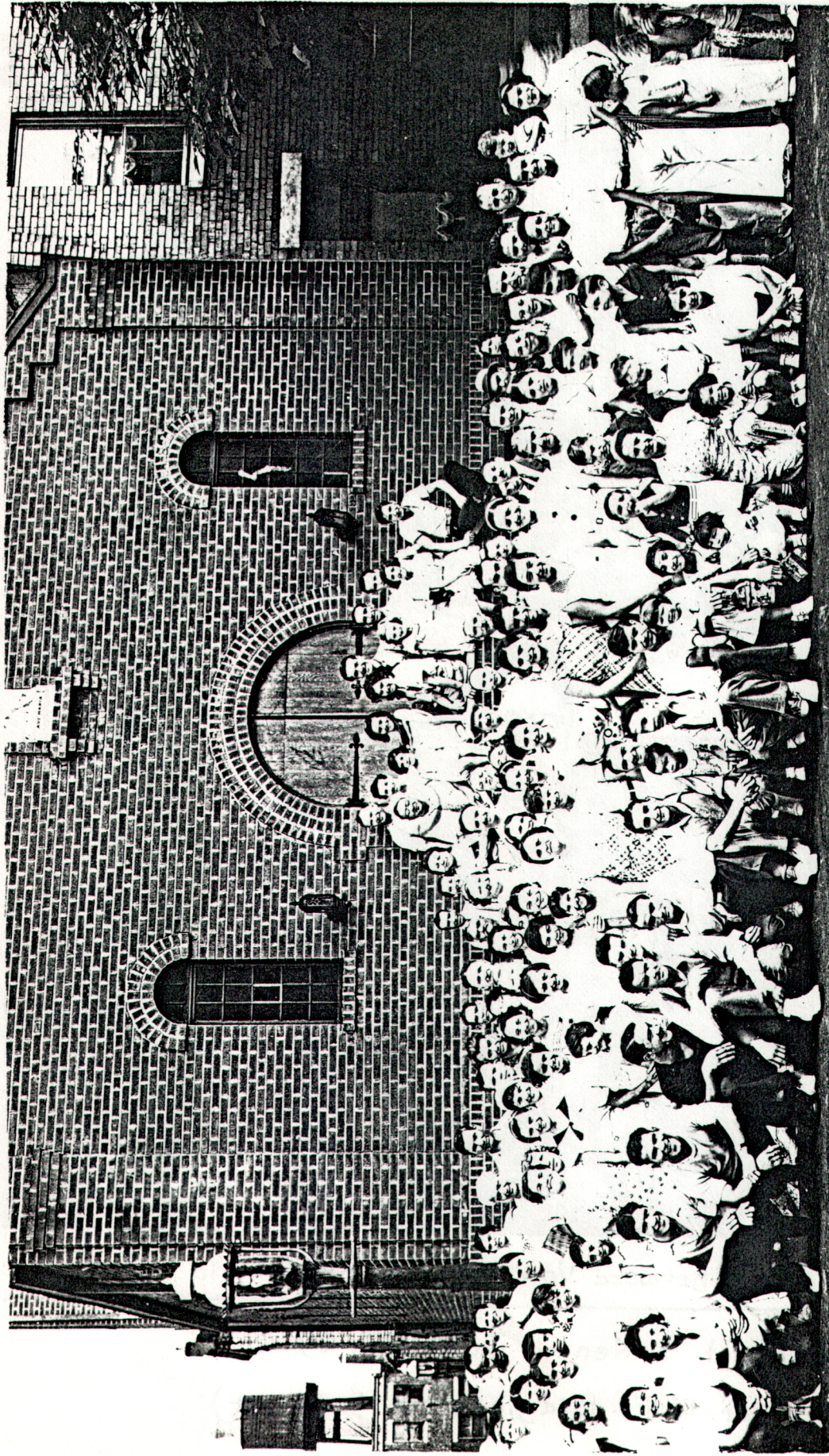




Fred Pietropaolo ~ Rev. Sherwood Van Atta ~ Rev. Silvio G. Biagini

Photograph taken ~ June 28, 1962  
(Just prior to Fr. Biagini's retirement)





St. Mary of the Annunciation  
Church Picnic  
(c. 1938)



## FORTY EIGHT YEARS OF SERVICE IN THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

After forty eight years of service, it is with regret that the time to retire is come, since I love to serve my Church. My mind goes back to the days of my youth, when passing on Sundays the American (Episcopal) Church of St. Paul, in Via Nazionale, Rome, Italy (recently proclaimed by the Italian Government, a National Monument.) I was often compelled to stop to hear the melodious sound of the chimes that invited me to enter the Church. I did admire the building with the beautiful mosaics, but the services were not for me, since they were conducted in english. At the time I had not the faintest idea that later on I was going to be a priest of that Church and celebrate in it, as it did happen. While a student in my native land of Italy I was occasionally attending the services of the Methodist Episcopal Church and I was following the vocation to be an educator and graduate from the Pedagogical University of Rome, I did achieve the desired position. I taught in the Public School of Rome for two years, then I decided to immigrate and I came to Philadelphia, where not the chimes, but the voice of a friend one Sunday invited me to attend the services of the Italian Church of l'Emanuello, then directed by a learned man, Rev. T. E. della Cioppa and there I was informed of the sound doctrine of the Episcopal Church and I became a member of it. Soon after I was appointed lay reader, then transferred to the Church of St. Barnabas (63rd & Haverford Avenue) where I served for few months under the vicious attacks of a priest of the R. C. Church, Fr. Michetti, who stimulated in me more enthusiasm for the Church and the desire to be a priest. In October 1914 I was sent to the Church of St. George (Indiana and Almond Streets) where I found more hardship. I was stoned, I was spitted on, tomatoes were thrown at me and all this because I was a protestant preacher. When soon after I opened a Sunday School at 3381 Agate Street, to teach the Gospel to the neglected community, the near by R. C. priest, Fr. Bruni, attacked me and my Church in his sermons, in his parish bulletin, inviting the people to use violence and throw me out of the community, but without success, since I was able to protect myself. In 1920 a corner property was purchased with the authorization of the saintly Bishop F. M. Rhinelander and a small Church was erected under the name of St. Mary of the Annunciation. Then more troubles, the R. C. priest very often uses to conduct Sundays processions with statues, with brass band around my Church during services and this until the mounted police were compelled to stop the processions in the vicinity of the Church. These are very few of the troubles from without, then there were troubles within, with the opposition of the low churchmen which was not justified, since I was and I am a genuine Episcopalian and in order to continue the work I was compelled to work for about one year in the factory of Thomas E. Brown.

While in so many troubles, within and without I had my own troubles with the English language when I entered the Divinity School of Philadelphia, but the good Lord helped me through the kindness shown in me by the professors, Dr. Robinson, Dr. Foley, Dr. Heffern, Dr. Yerks, Dr. Montgomery, that spent plenty of their time with me, with a good result in my canonical examinations. I was ordained Deacon on January 22nd 1919 and Priest on February 2nd, 1920. In 1932 the Church was enlarged and is now one of the most beautiful little churches in the City of Philadelphia.

During this time what has been accomplished by the Church? Italian immigrants, lost in this new Country, were directed to St. Mary of the Annunciation to find shelter and work and I do not exaggerate in stating that thousands of people found their first job through the Church. Classes of English and preparation for the U.S. citizenship were established, with the cooperation of the Y.M.C.A., all over the City and thousands of people became citizens of U.S. of America, through the Church of St. Mary of the Annunciation. In St. Mary of the Annunciation 98% of the people are American citizens. Classes of Italian language have been conducted for many years in order to keep alive the native language, with the help of the Italian Consul in the beginning.

As the vicar of St. Mary, being familiar with the immigration laws, I helped hundreds of Italians in trouble with the immigration in the local hearings and in the appeals in Washington and never have I lost one case. The Church assisted hundreds of people in compensation cases and this until the law required the services of attorney at law. During the depression the Church distributed 10,000 bags of 25 lb. of flour, never asking the religious affiliation; 125 children were daily well fed; cases and cases of bread and milk were distributed daily to people in need; new clothing was distributed in large quantity. I never asked people to attend the Church.

During the forty eight years over 300 children and adults have been baptized, 1005 persons have been confirmed or received, 110 couples have been married (only 5% went on the rocks in divorce) thousands more have heard the Gospel of Christ. Someone justly asks: Where are all of these people? - 150 went to the eternal rest; 175 as Judas Iscariots deserted the Church; 100 opportunists deserted the Church when the Church was not useful any more; 350 faithful, for necessity of life have been compelled to move within the City or the Stat and all over the United States. One of them, the former owner of the lot where the Church is now, returned to Italy, and brought with him 100 Testaments of Our Lord that I had furnished, and when he, in his home tried to preach the Gospel to a large group of people he was arrested and sent to prison for six months, because he had not the permit, that in vain he tried to secure. (this in 1931).

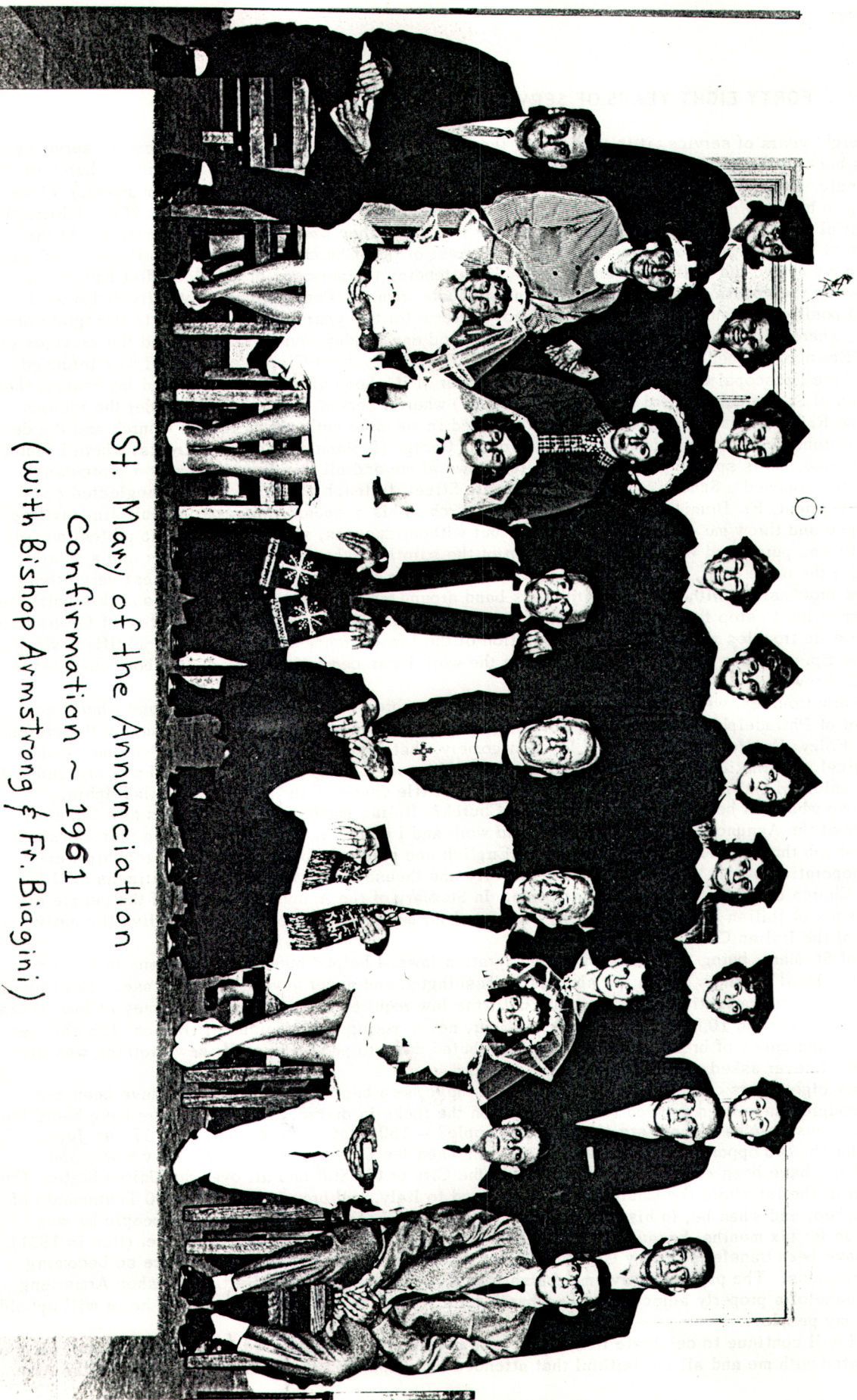
Never people have been transferred to my Church, while I transferred many that I had to replace so becoming a manufacturer of Episcopalians. The present active membership is 275. Recently Bishop Hart and Bishop Armstrong have authorized the purchase of a property adjacent to the Church for a rectory for my successor, who I hope will uphold the system of worship of my people.

Being retired I will continue to celebrate in St. Mary's as a volunteer. I thank God for His assistance, all the friends that have cooperated with me and all the faithful that attended and supported the Church of St. Mary of the Annunciation.

May God Bless Us All!

SILVIO G. BIAGINI





St. Mary of the Annunciation  
Confirmation ~ 1961  
(with Bishop Armstrong & Fr. Biagini)



**Obituaries**

# Rev. Dr. Norman Levis, Episcopal Pastor, 83

Funeral services will be held at 11 A. M. Friday for the Rev. Dr. Norman Van Pelt Levis, rector of the old Episcopal Church of the Incarnation, at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Oak Rd. and School House La.

The Rev. Dr. Levis died Monday in his home, 110 W. Coulter St., Germantown. He was 83.

He retired in 1940 and was elevated to pastor emeritus of the church. It was torn down three years later when its congregation merged with another Episcopal parish to form Grace Church and the Incarnation at Venango and Edgemont Sts. He had been rector of the Episcopal Church for 37 years.

Born in Mt. Holly, N. J., he attended Peekskill Military Academy, the University of Pennsylvania and the Philadelphia Divinity School. He was ordained in 1897 and appointed to the assistant rectorship of St. John's Church, Elizabeth, N. J.

He is survived by two sons, Russel T. and Norman Van Pelt, Jr., and two grandchildren. Burial will be in St. Andrew's Cemetery, Mt. Holly.

*Bulletin*

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1953

## Rev. J. K. Shryock Dies at 62; On Episcopal Hospital Board

The Rev. John K. Shryock, rector of the Protestant Episcopal Church of Grace and the Incarnation, Edgemont and Venango sts., died yesterday at Episcopal Hospital. He was 62 and lived at 4509 Regent st.

A member of the board of managers of the Episcopal Hospital, he had been for many years interested in Protestant missionary work in China.

Mr. Shryock was born in Philadelphia and attended the University of Pennsylvania, graduating in 1912. He completed his theological studies at the Philadelphia Divinity School and was ordained a deacon by the late Bishop Philip M. Rhineland in 1915. Later he received master of arts and doctor of philosophy degrees from the University of Pennsylvania.

### Aided School in China

From 1916 to 1926 Mr. Shryock was connected with St. Paul's School, Anking, China.

In 1927 he returned to Philadelphia and became assistant rector of the Church of the Saviour. One year later he was made rector of Grace Church, continuing to serve in that capacity after the congregation merged with that of the Church of Incarnation in 1942.

He was dean of the North Philadelphia Convocation from 1942 to 1947.

Mr. Shryock has been a member of the United Board of Church Colleges since 1948, and a chaplain of the Pennsylvania Society of Founders and Patriots since 1938. He was a trustee of the Central China College from 1931 to 1948.

**Author of Several Books**  
He has written several books on China and religion, among which are "The Temples of Anking," "The State Cult of Confucius," "Desire and the Universe" and "The Study of Human Ability."

Laurence H. Eldredge, president of Episcopal Hospital, praised Mr. Shryock as a valued member of the board of managers for the last nine years and said, "I know I speak for the entire board in expressing our deep regret that we shall no longer have the benefit of his help and guidance."

Surviving are his wife, the former Marguerite Jane Schaad, and two brothers, Dr. Richard H., of Johns Hopkins University, and James, of Chicago.

Services will be held at 2.30 P. M. Monday at the Church of the Holy Trinity, 19th and Walnut sts. Interment will be in West Laurel Hill Cemetery.

*Inquirer*

UARY 6, 1953

## Rev. J. K. Shryock Dies at Age of 62

The Rev. Dr. John K. Shryock, rector of the Episcopal Church of Grace and the Incarnation, Edgemont and Venango sts., died yesterday in Episcopal Hospital after a long illness. He was 62.

Dr. Shryock was a member of the board of managers of Episcopal Hospital for nine years and recently had been re-elected to a three-year term. He lived at 4509 Regent st.

He became rector of Grace Church in 1928 and served in that capacity after the congregation merged with that of the Church of the Incarnation in 1942.

From 1942 to 1947 he was dean of the North Philadelphia Convocation. He had been chaplain of the Pennsylvania Society of Founders and Patriots for 22 years and had been a member of the United Board of Church Colleges since 1948.

### CHINA COLLEGE TRUSTEE

Dr. Shryock also served as a trustee of the Central China College from 1931 to 1948.

He was graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in 1912 with a bachelor of science degree. He received a master of arts degree from the university in 1922 and a degree of doctor of philosophy in 1927.

He completed his theological studies at the Philadelphia Divinity School and was ordained a deacon in 1915 and a priest in 1916.

Following his ordination, Dr. Shryock went to China as a missionary, serving from 1916 to 1923 as a chaplain for the next three years as headmaster of St. Paul's School, Anking, China.

### WROTE SEVERAL BOOKS

He returned to Philadelphia and in 1927 became assistant rector of the Church of the Saviour. He was appointed rector of Grace Church the following year.

Dr. Shryock was the author of several books, including "The State Cult of Confucius," "Desire and the Universe" and "The Study of Human Ability."

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Marguerite Jane Schaad Shryock, and two brothers, Dr. Richard H., of Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, and James, of Pittsburgh.

## REV. SHRYOCK, LOCAL RECTOR LONG ILL, DIES

Funeral arrangements were made today for the Rev. John K. Shryock, rector of Protestant Episcopal Church of Grace and the Incarnation, who died yesterday in Episcopal Hospital after a long illness. He was 62.

Only two weeks ago the Rev. Shryock was re-elected for a three-year term to Episcopal Hospital's board of managers.

He was a missionary in China from 1916 to 1926, returning the latter year to become rector of Grace Church. Dr. Shryock wrote several books, including "Desire and the Universe" and "The Study of Human Ability."

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Marguerite Jane Schaad Shryock, of 4509 Regent St.; two brothers, Dr. Richard H. Shryock of Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, and James Shryock of Pittsburgh.



## Bishop Lays Corner Stone of St. George's New Parish House, Venango

### March 10, 1928

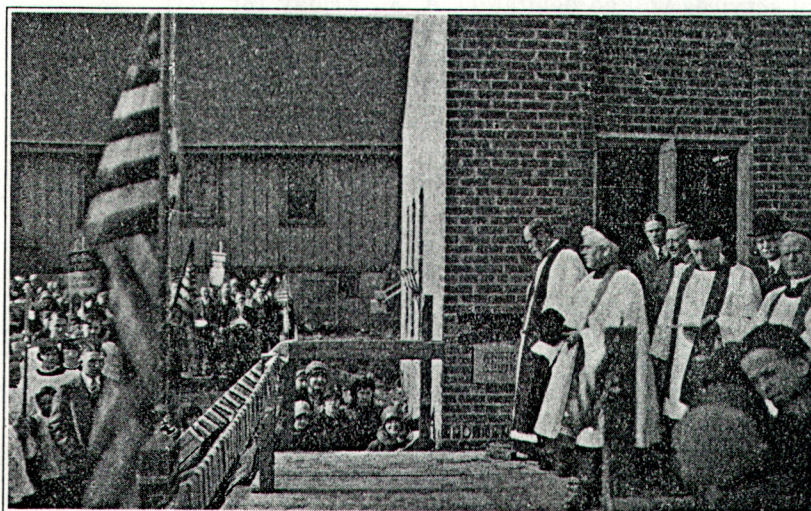
Bishop Garland on Saturday afternoon, March 10th, officiated at the Laying of the Corner Stone of the first unit of the Parish House of St. George's Mission, East Venango and Edgemont Streets, Philadelphia, assisted by the Rev. A. H. Hord, priest-in-charge of the work, who was appointed by the Bishop to that charge three years ago last December.

The attendance and general community interest was evidence of the increasingly strong influence which this outpost of the Church is exerting among all the people to whom it is trying to minister in its field. In addition to the Bishop and the priest-in-charge of the work, the Rev. E. J. Humes, rector emeritus of St. Paul's, Aramingo, and the Rev. George Mair, rector of St. Stephen's, Bridesburg, took part in the ceremonies. The Rev. N. V. P. Levis, Dean of the North Philadelphia Convocation, was prevented by illness from being present. Mr. Frank Watson, the architect of the building, and Mr. Irving Demarest, the builder, also were on the platform. The trowel used by the Bishop was presented by him to the priest-in-charge of the Mission.

There was a splendid attendance of the Mission congregation and of the various organizations representing the several activities. The Processional formed in the little frame building which for so many years has been the sole material equipment of the Mission for doing work in that neighborhood. The Clubs and Guilds of the Mission, preceded by the Choir, the Clergy and the Bishop, proceeded by way of the street to the platform prepared for the occasion, each Guild carrying its banner, the Junior Marines carrying the American flag and the Men's Club carrying a beautiful flag of the Diocese which had been presented to the Mission.

In his address the Bishop pointed to the successful work the Mission is doing and said it was due to the splendid co-operation of the people with the priest-in-charge.

"This is the first unit in the group of buildings which I hope eventually will be erected here," the Bishop added.



"The erection of this part of the building for which we are today laying the corner stone was made possible by the Diocesan Campaign for Missions and Institutions which was inaugurated in December of 1926, and represents part of the carefully thought out program for equipping our missionary stations in the Diocese to do more effectively the work for which they were designed."

St. George's, Venango, is one of the oldest Missions of the Diocese. It was started about 40 years ago. By reason of its location and delayed development of the neighborhood there was at one time thought of abandoning the work. It was decided, however, to hold the line. Results justified this decision. Its priest-in-charge reports a steadily increasing growth. Within the space of the last year 76 persons, mostly adults, have been presented to the Bishop for Confirmation. Its present communicant membership is about 280. There is a growing community interest in the service which the Mission is rendering to all people. The Men's Club is larger than at any time in its history and on special occasions brings together as many as 250 men of all religious connections. During the last year Venango Street west of the Mission was physically opened by the city. For years prior to this the Mission was virtually cut off from the west. Since the opening of

Venango Street two or three rows of homes have been built immediately adjoining the Mission and other open ground is being made ready for home buildings.

### CORNER STONE OF ST. ANDREW'S CHAPEL, STATE COLLEGE, LAID

The corner stone of the new St. Andrew's Chapel at State College was laid on Wednesday, February 1st, by Bishop Darlington, of Harrisburg Diocese, under whose jurisdiction this work among the students at State College comes.

All the Dioceses of the Church in the State of Pennsylvania have joined towards supplying funds for the completion of the Chapel. Our own Diocese has already forwarded the part of its share called for, which was made possible by the Diocesan Campaign for Missions and Institutions, St. Andrew's Chapel being included in the five-year program.

Bishop Ward, of Erie, made the address at an indoor service, at the ceremony of February 1st, after which the congregation marched to the site of the new building where the outdoor service was held. The Rev. Edward M. Frear, in charge of the student work at State College, acted as Master of Ceremonies.



# PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL SUNDAY SCHOOL AND PUBLIC SERVICE

WILL BE HELD ON

SUNDAYS,

UNDER THE DIRECTION OF

"The Convocation of Germantown,"

IN THE BUILDING AT THE

CORNER OF VICTORIA AND BATH STREETS,

(ABOVE VENANGO AND BELOW RICHMOND STREETS.)

Sunday School every Sunday at	-	-	-	-	-	2.30 P. M.
Public Worship	"	"	-	-	-	7.30 "

ALL ARE WELCOME.



*PLANS are formed to build as soon as practicable a chapel in this neighborhood. A valuable lot of ground has been donated for the purpose. For the present, the building above named will be used to gather a Sunday School and Congregation.*

*The School will be superintended by Mr. John Totty, Lay-Reader. The evening services will be conducted, with his assistance, by Ministers of the Protestant Episcopal Church.*



*Wm. D. Duigan,*

*Wm. A. Sall,*

*Mr. & Mrs. John Totty*



# PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHAPEL.

VENANGO AND EDMONT STREETS, ABOVE RICHMOND,

PHILADELPHIA.

UNDER THE DIRECTION OF

## "THE CONVOCAION OF GERMANTOWN."

*Public Services, commencing 22d September, 1889, will be held every Sunday Morning 10.30, Evening, 7.30, Sunday School 2.30 P. M.*

*Holy Communion, Second Sunday in each Month. Public Baptism, Last Sunday in each Month. Weekly Service, Wednesday Evening, at 7.30.*

SEATS FREE. ALL ARE WELCOME.

*The Sunday School is under the Superintendence of Mr. John Totty, Lay-Reader. The Evening Services are conducted, with his assistance, by Ministers of the Protestant Episcopal Church.*

### OFFICIATING CLERGYMEN:

September 15th,	Rev'd S. C. Hill, of Grace Church, Mount Airy.
" 22d,	" J. DeWolf Perry, D. D., Calvary Church, Germantown,
" 29th,	" Charles Logan, St. Davids, Church, Manayunk,
October 6th,	" H. A. F. Hoyt, P. E. Hospital, Front and Lehigh Ave.,
" 13th,	" John B. Falkner, D. D., Christ Church, Germantown,
" 20th,	" Walter Jordan, St. Stephen Church, Bridesburg,
" 27th,	" John K. Murphy, D. D., St. Michael Church, German't'n,
November 3d,	" Rob. E. Dennison, D. D., St. Timothy Church, Roxboro'h,
" 10th,	" Samuel Upjohn, D. D., St. Lukes Church, Germantown,
" 17th,	" Wm. N. McVickar, D. D. Holy Trinity Church, 19th and Walnut,
" 24th,	" Thomas J. Taylor, Christ Church, Franklinville.

ST. GEORGE'S

# PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHAPEL.

VENANGO AND EDMONT STREETS, ABOVE PORT RICHMOND,

PHILADELPHIA.

*This Chapel, lately erected under the direction of*

## "THE CONVOCAION OF GERMANTOWN"

*will be opened (D. V.) for Public Worship and Sunday School on*

Sunday, November 25th, 1888.

SUNDAY SCHOOL at - - - 2.30 P. M.

PUBLIC WORSHIP at - - - 7.30 P. M.

Rev'd J. DeWOLF PERRY, D. D., will preach on Sunday evening, November 25.

*Arrangements are being made with Ministers of the Protestant Episcopal Church to conduct the Services on Sunday evenings during the year.*

SEATS FREE. ALL ARE WELCOME.



EXCERPTS OF A REPORT DELIVERED TO THE NORTH PHILA. CONVOCATION,

IN SEPTEMBER - 1942, BY THE REV. A. J. ARKIN

"About the middle of November of 1901 I received a letter from Bishop Whitaker asking me to call at his home. There he told me that at a recent meeting of the Germantown Convocation a resolution was about to be passed to close St. George's Mission, Venango. It was felt that after 14 years of honest endeavor it was a failure. Bishop Whitaker persuaded them to try another year and had raised \$800.00, the yearly salary for the man he had in mind to send there. The Bishop told me that I was that man and, after much consideration, I consented to go."

"When I arrived I found a small frame, weatherbitten building, big enough to seat 150 people and lit with kerosine lamps. This chapel stood on the edge of a limitless truck farm. In front of it stretched dumps and sightless vacant lots, with a scattering of small houses here and there. To the right was a Roman Catholic cemetery and a small settlement of "squatters". To the left was a small Methodist church and a saloon. All of this was connected by Venango Street, cobble-stoned with no under drainage. All in all it was an area wither all the improvident and earners of small wages inhabited."

"On Sunday, November 24, 1901, I preached my first sermon at the Chapel to a congregation of 11 people consisting of 2 men, 3 women and 6 children. Most of these people were the sexton's family. I may say right here that I burned with shame for our Church since it was the poorest in the whole district; all the "respectable" people having attached themselves to the other Churches of years' standing. When I first came, our Chapel was dubbed "the sand box on the ash heap".

"After serving at the Chapel for five years it was determined by Bishops Whitaker and Mackay-Smith that our mission would better prosper if it were moved about a mile south to Richmond where more families lived and more homes were being built. I was directed to abandon the Chapel altogether but persuaded the authorities to hold on because of a daily kindergarten of 50 little ones and a small Sunday School. To this day the Chapel continues to survive and has experienced modest growth due to the services of many clergy and lay readers and the devotion of the members of the congregation."

"Out of practically nothing, with very small constituency to draw from, with all the prejudice against us, so common among common people (both Roman Catholic and Protestant) and with very little standing in the community, I was able to achieve the following accomplishments.



"I determined to try to soften the character of the surroundings. Outside the Public school there was no cultural center of any kind. There were plenty of rough vacant lots owned by absentee landlords. My first great achievement was to secure a donation of half a block just across from our property at Indiana and Almond Sts. for a Carnegie Library; and an appropriation by the city council for the purchase of the other half for a public square."

"The next achievement was to persuade the city authorities to purchase a big tract of vacant land for a public Play Ground with a recreation center and a swimming pool (the finest in the city), just one square from us".

"I was instrumental in securing the ground and interest in erecting a magnificent Junior High School (John Paul Jones)".

"I secured the use of the empty lot behind the Church for a School Garden, which lasted until the start of the First World War".

"I brought about a University Extension Branch to the community".

"I persuaded Dr. Woodward, then president of the Octavia Hill settlement Assn' to build a settlement within one block from the Church, which now accomodates about 100 families".

"I carried on "carbarn services" at a nearby terminal under the auspices of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew".

"I organized an interderm national Young People's Society with branches for literacy and dramatic excercises".

"For many years St. George's sponsored a Coal Saving and a Stamp Saving Fund for the people both in Richmond and Venango".

"I had Daily Vacation Bible Classes in the summer and conducted weekly afternoon services in the Parish House for the children".

"I established a community Girl's Club with classes for handiwork".

"There were weekly meetings at the Parish House of young people for recreation and dancing".

"We sent over 100 children for a week's vacation into the country through the Children's Country Work Assn". Others went to the seashore through a similar Asssn'".

"We sponsored free annual excursions for over a 1000 neighborhood children to Lemon Hill Park".

"Our Sunday School excursion up the Delaware River for 1400 people was a neighborhood event".



"Our Church established various clubs for men, women, boys and girls. We installed a pool room, shuffle board, athletic equipment and a first class moving picture outfit (at a cost of \$400.00, myself the operator)".

"For many years I was the National Secretary and Treasurer of the Christian Social Union. As such, I arranged for public forums discussing the relationship between labor & management. I was also the Church's Fraternal delegate to labor meetings and conventions".

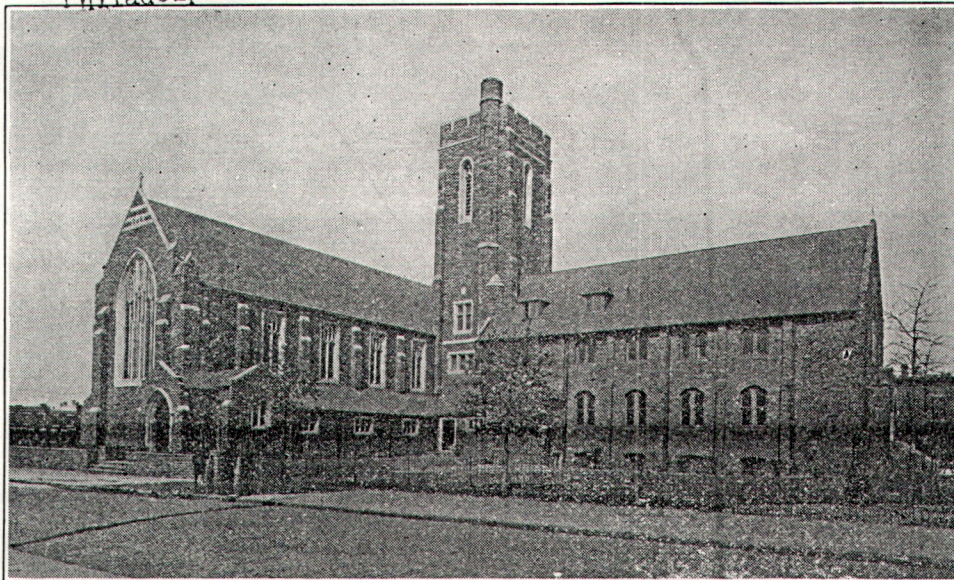
"I was one of the delegates sent to Harrisburg by the Child Labor Committee to plead for Child Labor Laws before a Congressional Committee".

"Governor Brumbaugh appointed me a delegate to the World's Purity Congress held in Louisville, Ky.".

"During the hard times of the Depression St. George's was the distribution station for the Government's Relief Committee".

" With all of the aforementioned not withstanding, who could possibly estimate the spiritual influence and the refining power of our Church. It has steadily rose from "the ash heap", starting and encouraging missions comprised of peoples of Polish and Italian decent, preaching the Gospel and administering the Sacraments to the parish community and providing a faithful witness to Christ in all of the community".

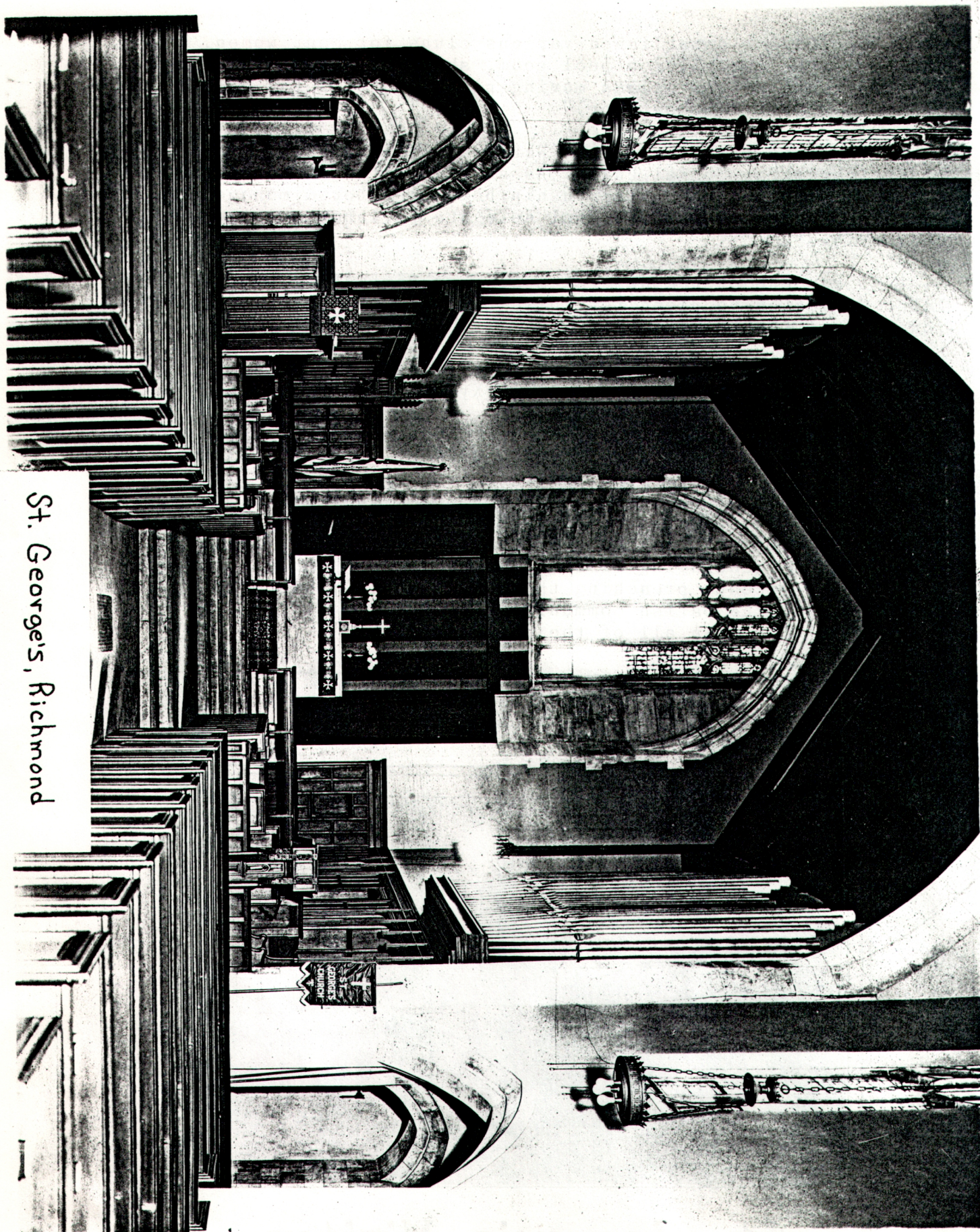
Mr & Mrs. John Maharg  
2081 Cedar St  
Philadelphia, Pa.



## ..St. George's Visitor..

"I SPEAK CONCERNING CHRIST AND THE CHURCH."





St. George's, Richmond